GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2743
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
NON-PAYMENT OF DUES
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Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether statutory dues amounting to Rs.1800 crore representing the Provident fund, ESI, gratuity, bonus, workmen`s compensation of public sector employees have not been paid;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with reasons for non-payment of the dues to them; and

(c) steps taken by the Government to protect the interest of the workers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) and (b): Based on provisional information received from some of the major Ministries/Department having administrative control of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) the outstanding statutory dues of workers amounted to Rs.1736 crore as on 31.3.2000. Provident Fund accounted for the maximum dues of workers followed by Pension, Gratuity, ESI and bonus.

The main reason for non-payment of these dues is paucity of funds resulting from recurring losses.

(c): The government is of the view that the sick CPSUs that are viable should be revived on prioritybasis and payment of dues of workers should be part of the revival package. However, if some CPSUs cannot be revived they should be allowed to close down after payment of all outstanding dues of workers. An attractive Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)/Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) has also been formulated by the Government to further protect the interest of workers.